GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:342
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2002
ANTI-DUMPING DUTY ON NEWSPRINTS
DAGGUBATI RAMANAIDU;M. JAGANNATH

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the status of the domestic newsprint industry;

(b) whether the domestic newsprint industry is facing severe crisis due to dumping of newsprint by various countries;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the efforts made by the Government in this regard to provide relief to the domestic newsprint industry;

(d) whether any request from the Government of Andhra Pradesh has been received for imposing anti-dumping duty on newsprint in order to protect its domestic newsprint industry; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE)

(a) to (e) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (e) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 342 for answer on 13.12.2002, regarding Anti-Dumping Duty on Newsprints by Shri Ramanaidu Daggubati and Dr. Manda Jagannath :

(a) to (c) Newsprint industry has been delicensed subject to locational policy. There is no control on the import of newsprint since 1st May, 1995. There are at present 65 mills manufacturing newsprint with a total installed capacity of 12.25 lakh tonnes. The installed capacity, production and import of newsprint during the last five years are given in the table below:

Period	Installed Capacity (in lakh tonnes)	Production (in lakh tonnes)	Import CIF Value of Import (Rs. in crores)	CIF Unit Price of Import (Rs. per tonne)	Indigenous Price (Rs. per tonne)
97-1998	7.83	4.00	4.98	999.62	20072.69	16000- 22000
98-1999	9.70	5.25	4.27	1003.62	23503.98	18000- 23500
99-2000	10.61	5.04	4.39	960.07	21869.47	17000- 22800
2000-01 (prov.)	10.83	6.34	4.42	1189.48	26911.31	19500- 30000
2001-02 (April.-Feb.)	12.04	6.20	4.08	1087.43	26652.69	17000- 22000
		(April.-Feb.)		(April.-Feb.)		

As could be seen from the data furnished in the table above, production of newsprint in the country has increased over the years except for marginal decline in the financial years 1999-2000 and 2001-2002. There has not been any substantial increase in the import of newsprint, which has remained more or less at the level of 4 lakh tonnes per annum. The import price of newsprint has not registered a significant decline during the last five years.

>From these facts and figures, it is evident that there is no cause for anti-dumping investigations at this juncture as far as newsprint is concerned.

(d) & (e) Neither the Ministry of Commerce and Industry nor the Directorate General of Anti-Dumping and Allied Duties has received any request from the Government of Andhra Pradesh for imposing anti-dumping duty on newsprint.